

## AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A ~~preform~~ multi-layered molding material comprising:  
a layer of a fibrous reinforcement material, and  
a layer of a reinforcement resin material engaged with the layer of fibrous reinforcement material, the layer of reinforcement resin material having an ,the inherent tack that holds of the reinforcement resin layer holding the fibrous reinforcement material in place relative to the layer of fibrous reinforcement material, the reinforcement material being at least partially dry with respect to the reinforcement resin, wherein

said reinforcement resin material including ~~comprises~~ a ~~first~~ venting structure having venting channels for conducting gases in directions both parallel to the plane of the reinforcement layer and perpendicular thereto to allow gases to pass out of the molding material via the reinforcement layer during processing to prevent entrapment of gases.

2. (Original) A molding material according to Claim 1 wherein the reinforcement layer comprises a further venting structure for allowing gases to pass out of said molding material via the reinforcement layer during processing.

3. (Original) A molding material according to Claim 2 wherein the further venting structure is formed by the reinforcement material.

4. (Original) A molding material according to Claim 1 wherein the venting channels vent interlaminar and/or intralaminar gases.

5. (Original) A molding material according to Claim 4 wherein the venting channels are defined between lengthwise extending strips of reinforcement resin material.

6. (Currently Amended) A molding material according to Claim 1 wherein the resin layer is discontinuous, thereby forming the ~~first~~ venting structure.

7. (Original) A molding material according to Claim 1 wherein the reinforcement material is unimpregnated by the resin material or is at least partially unimpregnated by the resin material to allow gases to pass out of the molding material.

8. (Original) A molding material according to Claim 1 wherein the reinforcement material comprises a unidirectional reinforcement material or a non-uniform fibrous reinforcement material.

9 - 17. (Cancelled).

18. (Currently Amended) A multi-layered molding material comprising:  
a layer of a reinforcement material, and  
a layer of a resin material engaged with the layer of fibrous reinforcement material, wherein said resin material includes ~~comprises~~ a ~~first~~ venting structure to allow gases to pass out of said molding material via the reinforcement layer during processing.

19. (Original) A molding material according to Claim 18 wherein the reinforcement layer comprises a further venting structure for allowing gases to pass out of said molding material via the reinforcement layer during processing.

20. (Original) A molding material according to Claim 19 wherein the further venting structure is formed by the reinforcement material.

21. (Currently Amended) A molding material according to Claim 18 wherein said ~~first~~ venting structure comprises venting passages or venting channels for venting interlaminar and/or intralaminar gases.

22. (Currently Amended) A molding material according to Claim 18 wherein the resin layer is discontinuous thereby forming the ~~first~~ venting structure.

23. (Original) A molding material according to Claim 18 wherein the reinforcement material is conjoined to the surface of the resin material.

24. (Original) A molding material according to Claim 23 wherein the reinforcement material is held in place by the inherent tack of the resin material.

25. (Original) A molding material according to Claim 18 wherein the reinforcement material is unimpregnated by the resin material or at least partially unimpregnated by the resin material to allow gases to pass out of the molding material.

26 - 30. (Cancelled).